

## **Course EDLD 5364 Teaching With Technology Course-based Embedded Assignment**

### **Assignment Week 5 – Part 3**

I have enjoyed working with the group that was created in this course. This class has showed me how to effectively collaborate online with other members asynchronously. Google Docs and Google Sites was a breeze to create and maintain throughout the course. As the team leader for the group, I was able to improve my managerial skills by setting up timelines and motivating team members to do their best. The most rigorous learning tool used in this course was the creation of our lessons via UDL's CAST Lesson Builder. This tool although very easy to use and manipulate however it really picked my brain to create better lessons for myself and for the team project. The most significant quote from this course came from a video from Week 4. The quote that struck a cord with me by Dr. Papert was "The standardization is a guarantee of low standards because the standard I would like to see is thinking differently" (Edutopia). Also I was very impressed a young mans talent for directing films for education during week 3. This child prodigy, Cameron from Indiana, has the talent of filming, leadership and acting at such as young age. The most important idea to remember about this remarkable young man is his ability to self learn using rich media content on YouTube. Lastly, I'd like to note that I took this course during a tough time for education. This course started in February 2011, the start of budget cuts made nationwide. Amidst of all these tough times, we learned about various ways to combat the issue to money to continue to teach our students using free/open source tools available online. These tools are known as

Web 2.0 tools and they are the start of a revolution that allows for high quality education for all. We closed the course by learning about student effort. Chapter 8 of Pitler's book discusses the most important ingredient of ANY type of learning. We can be the best teachers in the best schools with the best tools but it comes down to none other than individual student effort. Making students cognizant of their individual effort can produce and instill lifelong learning habits. Whether we use technology frequently or infrequently, educators must take on a proactive approach to empowering students and show student that learning is in their hands.

Sources:

Edutopia.org (n.d.) *Digital Youth Portrait -- Cameron*. Retrieved May 6, 2011 from <http://www.edutopia.org/digital-generation-profile-cameron-video>

Edutopia.org (nd). *Project Learning: An Overview*. Retrieved on March 13, 2011 from <http://www.edutopia.org/project-based-learning-overview>

Pitler, H., Hubbell, E., Kuhn, M., & Malenoski, K. (2007). *Using technology with classroom instruction that works*. Alexandria, VA: Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development, 155-164